

***The Office of Adolescent Health Recognizes
Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month:
Evidence + Collaboration = Better Outcomes***

Tuesday, May 10, 2011 (10 AM–12 PM)
HHS, Hubert H. Humphrey Building, Great Hall

Summary of remarks by:
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The vision of the Office of Adolescent Health (OAH) is to create better systems of prevention; improve the health of adolescents; and create and promote effective, sustainable public health systems that address the interrelated health needs of adolescents, including mental health, injury and violence prevention, substance abuse, sexual behavior, pregnancy prevention, nutrition, physical activity, and tobacco use. OAH has undertaken the following activities to help to further the field of teen pregnancy prevention:

- Evidence base of programs. Through our independent, systematic review conducted in partnership with ASPE, OAH identified an evidence base of programs eligible for replication under the new Teen Pregnancy Prevention program, and implemented a process to maintain and update that evidence review.
- Funded over 100 grant projects across the country. These projects are five-year cooperative agreements which involve substantial participation on the part of HHS. These include: 75 Tier One projects to replicate at least one of the 28 evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention program models proven effective through rigorous evaluation; 19 Tier Two research and demonstration projects to develop and test additional models and innovative strategies; 13 grants, in partnership with ACF, that focus on innovative approaches to teen pregnancy prevention; and eight grants, in partnership with the CDC, focused on community-wide initiatives to address teen pregnancy.
- Pregnancy Assistance Fund (PAF). OAH oversees the PAF program, which provided 17 grants to States and Tribes to develop and implement activities to support pregnant and parenting teens and women. These programs also focus on the reduction of subsequent pregnancies which we know to be a major barrier to future success for teen parents.
- Hosted three national grantee conferences. These events brought together the TPP and Pregnancy Assistance Fund grantees.
- Provided technical assistance and training to grantees. Activities included initiating a process to review materials for medical accuracy, developing a set of uniform performance measures, and providing guidance to grantees on program implementation and evaluation.
- HHS Interagency Adolescent Health Work Group. Last year, OAH began convening and coordinating this Work Group, which serves as a vehicle for ongoing collaboration and communication among agencies and offices on adolescent health issues. OAH convenes a monthly meeting of the AHWG to advise the near-term priorities for OAH, share adolescent health information, and enable agencies and offices to advance their own programmatic activities and provide advice on the interrelated health needs of adolescents.
- Website redesign. OAH is in the process of re-designing our website to become a coordinated resource for adolescent health issues. The vision is to develop multiple briefs, housed on the Website, that clearly and comprehensively frame the issue for a variety of topics related to adolescent health.